Appln. No. 10/077,215

Attorney Docket No. 10541-1273

II. Remarks

Claims 3-6 and 9-15 are pending in this application, each of which stand finally rejected in the outstanding Office action mailed March 23, 2004 as being unpatentable over the prior art.

By separate paper filed simultaneously herewith under common transmittal, Applicants are appealing the final rejection of claims 3-6 and 9-15.

In order to place the claims in a proper condition for appeal, Applicants are amending claim 9 to provide proper antecedent basis for its preamble (to properly recite "the suspension system" rather than "the shaft"), to thereby obviate any potential indefiniteness issue under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment for purpose of appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

Hugo A. Delevie (Reg. No. 32,688)

Date

HAD/sko .